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CONDITIONAL LICENSE ORDER

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 241.021, subdivision 1a (a), the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) hereby places Ramsey County Adult Detention Center's (ADC) license to provide adult detention facility services at 425 Grove Street, Saint Paul, MN 55101 on conditional status as of the date of this order. This means the Ramsey County ADC must limit its capacity to detain inmates as detailed below. This order is based on the Ramsey County ADC's failure to substantially conform to the minimum standards required under Minnesota Rules chapter 2911, and its failure to make satisfactory progress toward substantial conformance. These violations include Ramsey County ADC's repeated and ongoing noncompliance with minimum staffing requirements under Minnesota Rule 2911.0900 and other identified rule violations that appear to stem from these staffing issues as detailed below. Based on the DOC's investigation to date, Ramsey County ADC's failure to comply with applicable minimum staffing requirements has contributed to conditions that pose an imminent risk of life-threatening harm or serious physical injury to individuals confined or incarcerated in the facility, such that the reduction of capacity limits imposed by this conditional license order is necessary and will promptly correct the imminent risk of harm. This reduction in capacity is designed to ensure that Ramsey County ADC's staffing is sufficient to maintain the safety and wellbeing of the individuals in its care.

MINIMUM STANDARDS VIOLATED

Minn. R. 2911.0900

Minn. R. 2911.5800, subp. 2

Minn. R. 2911.5800, subp. 6

Minn. R. 2911.2525, subp. 1.A

Minn. R. 2911.5000

FINDINGS OF VIOLATIONS OF MINIMUM STANDARDS

On January 27, 2023, the DOC received notice of a complaint against the Ramsey County ADC by Ramsey County Public Health, health authority for the Ramsey County ADC, that the safety and health of individuals at the facility are at risk. Specifically, the concerns raised in this complaint include the failure by Ramsey County ADC staff to follow directives of the health authority resulting in the denial of medical care to inmates as well as failures by Ramsey County ADC staff to transport multiple individuals to medical appointments that were determined to be necessary by the health authority. The DOC is currently investigating this complaint and has discovered in the course of its ongoing investigation multiple repeated violations of Minnesota Rules chapter 2911, which governs adult detention facilities.

Violations of Minimum Staffing Requirements

The DOC's ongoing investigation shows that Ramsey County ADC has repeatedly failed to meet minimum staffing requirements in violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.0900. After an inspection in November 2022, the DOC directed Ramsey County ADC to comply with minimum staffing requirements and directed the facility to submit a staffing plan to the DOC by December 31, 2022. On December 30, 2022, Ramsey County ADC submitted this required plan and informed the DOC that it was meeting required staffing levels. An audit of staffing records conducted as part of the DOC's current and ongoing investigation, however, found that minimum staffing levels were not met during 12 shifts between January 7 and January 25, 2023 in violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.0900.

Repeated Incidents of Failing to Provide Medical Care As Ordered by Ramsey County ADC's Health Authority

At 6:22 p.m. on December 12, 2022, correctional staff sought medical care for an individual in the Ramsey County ADC. At 6:35 p.m. the individual was assessed by medical staff who directed she be sent out by ambulance for medical care due to a suspected stroke. Correctional staff advised they did not have staff available and would call once they did. No ambulance was called until 7:42 p.m. and the individual was not admitted to the hospital until 7:58 p.m., more than an hour and a half after her symptoms were first observed. She was indeed suffering from a stroke. This is a violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5800, subp. 2, which provides that medical matters are the sole province of the treating medical professional. In addition, the well-being checks immediately preceding this incident were reviewed and found to be out of compliance with the requirements of Minnesota Rule 2911.5000 in that correctional staff failed to take sufficient time to personally observe the well-being and status of the individual suffering the stroke.

On January 13, 2023, an inmate at Ramsey County ADC was sent to the hospital after he reported having swallowed drugs. When he returned to the facility, he reported that he ingested drugs between the time he left the hospital and his arrival back at the facility. Medical staff directed he be returned to the hospital for evaluation. Correctional staff refused to comply with this directive. This is a violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5800, subp. 2, which provides that medical matters are the sole province of the treating medical professional.

On December 16, 2022, Medical staff was prevented from medically screening an individual who was initially brought to the Ramsey County ADC after an auto accident in violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5800, subp. 6, which requires medical screenings to be "performed and recorded by trained staff on all inmates" on admission to a facility. Medical staff directed that the individual be screened but correctional staff refused in violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5800, subp. 2. This individual was released without any medical screening being conducted.

On September 22, 2022, an individual entered the Ramsey County ADC and was placed in a holding cell from 7:48 a.m. until 1:10 a.m. on September 23, 2022 after being arrested for obstructing legal process and interfering with a police officer. Video evidence reveals that he was not provided any food or water during this time and that for a two-hour period he was bleeding without any attention from correctional staff. He was transported to the hospital at approximately 1:30 a.m. on September 23, 2022 for evaluation. This is a violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5800, subp. 6, which requires medical screenings be performed and recorded by trained staff upon admission. In addition, Ramsey County ADC violated Minnesota Rule 2911.2525, subp. 1.A by failing to obtain and document emergency medical information within two hours of admission to the facility. This incident involved a delay in the provision of medical care due to correctional staff's failure to conduct proper well-being checks in violation of Minnesota Rule 2911.5000, subp. 5. The DOC provided Ramsey County ADC with a letter dated December 19, 2022 to Undersheriff Finney regarding this special incident.¹ In its letter the DOC required Ramsey County ADC to complete a written plan as to how it would address the violations by February 1, 2023. Ramsey County ADC failed to submit a plan.

Interviews with Ramsey County ADC staff identified inadequate staffing as contributing to the failure to timely follow medical directives as to the incidents described above.

Pattern of Failure to Conduct Timely and Appropriate Well-Being Checks

Ramsey County ADC has a long-documented history of failing to comply with the requirements of Rule 2911.5000, subp. 5 by failing to conduct timely and appropriate well-being checks of those in its custody. On February 10, 2022, the DOC issued Ramsey County ADC a correction order directing the facility to address its repeated and ongoing noncompliance with Rule 2911.5000, subp. 5. This correction order advised Ramsey County ADC that it was the "final correction order issued related to this ongoing noncompliance." The DOC's November 2022 inspection specifically identified continued non-compliance with well-being check requirements and the DOC directed Ramsey County ADC to submit a plan to address these concerns by December 15, 2022. In response, on November 29, 2022, Ramsey County ADC provided the DOC with a directive to their staff for well-being check audits beginning December 1, 2022. DOC's current investigation, however, identified continued non-compliance with well-being check requirements in December 2022 and January 2023 including well-being checks immediately preceding the incident involving the individual suffering a stroke detailed above.

TERMS OF CONDITIONAL LICENSE

Ramsey County ADC is hereby required to comply with the following terms in order to maintain its license:

1. Ramsey County ADC's approved capacity is reduced to 360 inmates and its operational bed capacity is reduced to 324 inmates from February 3, 2023 until November 30, 2023 or until further order by the DOC.
2. Ramsey County ADC must submit to the DOC a capacity-reduction plan to reach the capacity limits imposed by this Conditional License Order by close of business on Monday, February 6, 2023. This

¹ Ramsey County ADC is required to report emergencies or unusual occurrences at the facility to the DOC. See Minn. Stat. § 241.021, subd. 1, Minn. R. 2911.3700, subp. 4 (identifying types of occurrences required to be reported to the DOC, commonly referred to as special incidents).

plan must result in achieving the ordered capacity reduction no later than noon on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

3. Ramsey County ADC must begin to immediately reduce facility population to comply with the capacity limits imposed by this order and provide daily written updates to Senior Detention Inspector Jen Pfeifer on these capacity-reduction efforts until the facility population is reduced to the capacity limits imposed by this order.
4. Ramsey County ADC must report to Senior Detention Inspector Jen Pfeifer any time the facility's population exceeds the capacity limits imposed by this order.

RIGHT TO REQUEST RECONSIDERATION

Ramsey County ADC has the right to request reconsideration of this conditional license order. Under Minnesota Statutes Section 241.021 subdivision 1e, any request for reconsideration does not stay any provision of this order. A request for reconsideration must:

- Be in writing
- Be sent by certified mail to the Commissioner and postmarked no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of this order
- Specify the parts of the order that are alleged to be in error
- Explain why the order is in error
- Include any supporting documentation to show why the order is in error

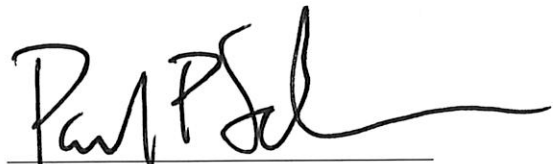
Failure to follow these requirements will result in the loss of the right to request reconsideration. The timeline to seek reconsideration begins upon receipt of this order. Please send any request for reconsideration to:

Commissioner, Department of Corrections
ATTN: Inspection and Enforcement Unit
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55108

So ordered,

Date:

02/03/2023



Paul Schnell
Commissioner of Corrections